

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation act:

Pub. L. 104-204, title III, Sept. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 2916.

§ 762. Definitions

As used in sections 762 to 762d of this title—

(1) The term “TDD” means a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf, a machine which employs graphic communications in the transmission of coded signals through the nationwide telecommunications system.

(2) The term “Federal agency” has the meaning given such term by section 472(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-542, § 2, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2721.)

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 100-542 provided that: “This Act [enacting this section and sections 762a to 762d of this title] may be cited as the ‘Telecommunications Accessibility Enhancement Act of 1988’.”

§ 762a. Federal telecommunications system requirements**(a) Accessibility of telecommunications systems**

The Administrator of General Services, after consultation with the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, the Interagency Committee on Computer Support of Handicapped Employees, the Federal Communications Commission, and affected Federal agencies, shall, by regulation, take such actions in accordance with this section as may be necessary to assure that the Federal telecommunications system is fully accessible to hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals, including Federal employees, for communications with and within Federal agencies.

(b) Specific requirement

In carrying out subsection (a) of this section, the Administrator shall—

(1) provide for the continuation of the existing Federal relay system for users of TDD’s;

(2) within 90 days after October 28, 1988, expand such relay system by employing at least one additional operator;

(3) within 180 days after October 28, 1988—

(A) conduct, as part of the rulemaking proceeding required by subsection (a) of this section, an analysis of modifications to the Federal telecommunications system that the Administrator, in his discretion, determines to be necessary to achieve the objectives of subsection (a) of this section; and

(B) submit a report on the results of such analysis to each House of the Congress;

(4) within 180 days after completion of such analysis, prescribe the regulations required by subsection (a) of this section;

(5) assemble, publish, and maintain a directory of TDD and other devices used by Federal agencies to comply with such regulations, and publish, in Federal agency directories, access numbers of TDD’s and such other devices; and

(6) after consultation with the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, adopt the design of a standard logo to signify the presence of a TDD or other device

used by a Federal agency to comply with such regulations.

(c) Congressional oversight

The Administrator shall not prescribe the regulation required by subsection (a) of this section before the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date the Administrator submits the report required by subsection (b)(3)(B) of this section.

(Pub. L. 100-542, § 3, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2721.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 762, 762b of this title.

§ 762b. Additional requirements**(a) Support for research**

The Administrator shall, in consultation with the Federal Communications Commission, seek to promote research by Federal agencies, State agencies, and private entities to reduce the cost and improve the capabilities of telecommunications devices and systems that provide accessibility to hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals.

(b) Planning to assimilate technological developments

The Administrator, in planning future alterations to and modifications of the Federal telecommunications system, shall take into account results of the analysis required by section 762a(b)(3) of this title and any technological improvements in telecommunications devices and systems that provide accessibility to hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals.

(Pub. L. 100-542, § 4, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2722.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 762 of this title.

§ 762c. Inquiry regarding interstate TDD relay system

The Federal Communications Commission shall, within 9 months after October 28, 1988, complete its existing inquiry regarding an interstate relay system for users of TDD’s.

(Pub. L. 100-542, § 5, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2722.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 762 of this title.

§ 762d. TDD installation by Congress

As soon as practicable, each House of the Congress shall establish a policy under which Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, as the case may be, may obtain TDD’s for use in communicating with hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals, and for the use of hearing-impaired and speech-impaired employees.

(Pub. L. 100-542, § 6, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2722.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 762 of this title.